

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously amended): A method of detecting the presence of a phospholipid in a biological material, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a biological material;
- b) contacting the biological material with at least one binding agent selected from the group consisting of lactadherin, a fragment of lactadherin, a functional equivalent of lactadherin, and a functional equivalent of a fragment of lactadherin;
- c) binding the biological material and the binding agent; and
- d) detecting the presence of any phospholipid bound to the binding agent or the binding agent bound to the biological material.

Claim 2 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the phospholipid comprises phosphatidylserine.

Claim 3 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the phospholipid comprises a phospho-L-serine moiety of phosphatidylserine.

Claim 4 (original): The method of Claim 2, wherein:

the biological material comprises a cell, a cell membrane, a cell appendage, a cell fragment, a lipoprotein, or a cellular particle.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of Claim 4, wherein:

any binding in step [[b)]] c) is independent of any Ca^{++} or phosphatidylethanolamine.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of Claim 4, wherein:

any binding in step [[b)]] c) is increased with increasing of cell membrane curvature.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2, wherein:

any binding in step [[b)]] c) increases proportionally to the content of phosphatidylserine in a range of about 0-2%.

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Claims 8 (original): The method of Claim 4, wherein:
the cell membrane comprises a curved region.

Claims 9-27 (cancelled).